



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#132/F
Lita
3/25/03



In re application of:

BLOOM *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/227,742

Filed: January 8, 1999

For: **Method for Increasing Viability
and Transformation Efficiency of
Bacteria During Storage at Low
Temperatures**

Confirmation No.: 7763

Art Unit: 1636

Examiner: Loeb, B.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4770003/RWE/FRC

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Amendment And Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

MAR 20 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated **December 17, 2002**, (PTO Prosecution File Wrapper Paper No. 31), Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) A clean version of each replacement paragraph/section/claim along with clear instructions for entry;
- (B) Starting on a separate page, appropriate remarks and arguments. 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 and MPEP 714; and
- (C) Starting on a separate page, a marked-up version entitled: "Version with markings to show changes made."

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a),